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Boulenger, in his account of the Venezuelan *Phyllobates trinitatis*, believed that the larvæ attached themselves to back of the parent with the object of being transported from one pool to another. Brauer shows, however, that in *Arthroleptis* the attached condition is not a temporary one, but that a large part of the development takes place in the back of the male.

Marine Mollusca in the Suez Canal. — M. Bavay (*Bull. Soc. Zool.*, France, XXIII, 9 and 10) gives a list of twenty-five species of marine Mollusca that have been taken in the Suez Canal, six of which are Mediterranean forms, and nineteen belong to the fauna of the Red Sea; of the latter, *Meleagrina radiata* has also been taken on the coast of Tunis. The disparity between the number of Mediterranean and Red Sea forms is explained by the fact that from July to January the level of the Mediterranean is at an average of .4 of a meter higher than the Red Sea, thus causing a current in the canal from north to south, while from January to July the level of the Red Sea stands .3 of a meter higher than the Mediterranean, producing a current from south to north. Now since it is in the earlier months of the year, or during the time of the northward current, that most of the larvæ are hatched, the Red Sea forms are most favored in their migrations.

Hertwig's Summaries in Systematic Zoölogy. — Professor A. A. Wright, of Oberlin College, has put into tabular form the classification adopted by Richard Hertwig in his *Lehrbuch der Zoologie*, and has printed with this a translation of the summaries of morphological and physiological facts given at the end of each chapter. His purpose is to make these summaries accessible to students as an accompaniment to lectures on systematic zoölogy. Professor Wright's pamphlet of thirty-five pages thus forms a useful supplement to Field's translation of the introductory part of the *Lehrbuch*, which covered the subject of general zoölogy. The first edition of Professor Wright's work, published in February, 1897, having been exhausted, a second edition without essential modification has recently been issued.

Fishes of Ecuador. — In the *Bolletino* of the museum at Turin Dr. E. A. Boulenger has a valuable paper on the fishes of Ecuador, collected by Dr. Enrico Festa. Forty-three species are described, many of them new. Among the latter are two marine catfishes, *Arius* (*Tachysurus*) *festæ* and *A. (Galeichthys) labiatus*.

A New Type of Shark. — Professor D. S. Jordan, in the *Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci.*, Ser. 3, *Zoöl.*, Vol. I, No. 6, describes the type of a

distinct family of Lamnoid sharks from Japan under the name of *Mitsukurina rustoni*. The genus is apparently unique among living forms, its nearest living relative being the genus *Odontaspis* of Agassiz, a group which contains few recent sharks, but which is rich in fossil forms.

American Gordiacea. — Dr. T. H. Montgomery concludes his second paper on Gordiacea of certain American collections (*Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci.*, Ser. 3, *Zoöl.*, Vol. I, No. 9) with a synoptical key for determining the species of Gordiacea of the North American continent north of Mexico.

Development of the Eel. — An excellent summary of our knowledge regarding the development of the eel is given by Dr. A. König in *Mittheil. d. Sect. f. Naturk. des Oesterreich. Touristen Club*, X, Nos. 8 and 9.

BOTANY.

A New School Botany. — The modern reaction against the old-fashioned way of making elementary botanical instruction consist chiefly in “analyzing” flowers is well exemplified in the present text-book.¹ With the recommendation that “analysis” be postponed, “even though the pupil may pursue it independently at a later time,” the author introduces the student at once to a physiological and microscopical study of the protoplasm and vegetative organs of a few Algal, Fungal, Bryophytic, Pteridophytic, and Spermatophytic types. These same types, together with others, are then studied in the second part as regards their morphology, reproductive processes, and life history. This part ends with a cursory view of some of the more important families of flowering plants. A final part devoted to ecology calls attention to a few examples of interesting adaptations of various organs to the work of nutrition, protection, pollination, dissemination, and germination, and directs the student to profitable lines of study in geographical distribution with special reference to plant formations. In an appendix suggestions are given for the collection and preservation of material, note taking, etc.

The illustrations are mostly good, some being of unusual excellence. Certain of the photographic views, however, seem too hazy and con-

¹ Atkinson, Ph.B., George Francis, Professor of Botany in Cornell University. *Elementary Botany*. New York, Henry Holt & Co., 1898. xxiii + 444 pp., 509 illustrations. Cloth 12mo. \$1.25.